

1. DATE - TIME GROUP	2. LOCATION
11. January 65 15/0708Z	Mammoth, Arizona
3. SOURCE	10. CONCLUSION
Civilian	UNCLASSIFIED REPORT ✓
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS	
One	
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION	11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS
11 Minutes	Three white lights forming an equilateral triangle. Lights size of ordinary light bulb. Initial observation the lights appeared to be motionless above a parking lot. No sound or other details noted. Lights were at 45 deg elevation 70-80 deg azimuth moving to point were motionless, then began to move at a speed of 40-50 mph. As lights moved to the W an A/C was observed to approach them as in an effort to intercept. This A/C had propeller drive. A/C could not catch the lights. A/C also disappeared over the horizon while still chasing the lights.
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION	
Ground-Visual	
7. COURSE	
NE	
8. PHOTOS	COMMENTS: Witness contacted by JAH. Dr Hynes regards the witness as unreliable in reporting direction, distances, etc. During his interview the witness made many contradictory and conflicting statements. Thought might possibly be Satellite, however none reported in area at the reported time of the observation.
□ Yes □ No	
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE	
□ Yes □ No	

FORM
FTD SEP 63 0-329 (TDE) Previous editions of this form may be used.

HEADQUARTERS
12TH STRATEGIC AEROSPACE DIVISION (SAC)
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
DAVIS-MONTHAN AIR FORCE BASE, ARIZONA, 85707



REPLY TO: BDO / LtCol R H Amy
ATTN OF:

SUBJECT: Unidentified Flying Object

21 January 1965

TO: AFSC (AFB)
Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, 45433

1. The following unidentified flying object sighting occurred on 21 January 1965.

a. Description of the object:

(1) The object appeared to be three white lights about the size of an ordinary light bulb, and spaced about 15 feet apart in an equilateral triangle.

(2) Same as above

(3) Same as above

(4) There was only one triangle formed by lights.

(5) N/A

(6) No other discernible features or details.

(7) N/A

(8) No sound was heard

(9) N/A

b. Description of course of object:

(1) The observer's attention was first attracted to the lights because they appeared to be motionless above a lighted parking lot. The observer had just left a lighted building.

(2) Angle of elevation was 45 degrees and a true direction of 70 degrees to 80 degrees when first observed.

(3) Object disappeared over the horizon to the northwest.

(4) The lights at first appeared motionless, then slowly began to move to the northwest at an estimated speed of 40 to 50 miles per hour. After the object began moving to the northwest an aircraft was observed to be approaching from the southeast of the object as if attempting to intercept the object. The observer was definite that he saw an aircraft. He was familiar with the normal navigation lights and rotating beacon. He claimed the aircraft made the sound of a propeller driven aircraft. The aircraft never caught the object. The observer stated the object appeared to speed up as the aircraft approached. The aircraft disappeared over the horizon also as if still chasing the object. The observer was unable to give a distance that separated the aircraft from the object.

(5) Object and aircraft disappeared over the horizon to the northwest.

(6) The object was observed for fourteen (14) minutes.

c. Manner of observation:

- (1) Ground - visual sighting.
- (2) N/A
- (3) N/A

d. Time and date of sighting:

- (1) 15/0208Z till 15/0222Z.
- (2) Night, clear sky.

e. Location of observer. 32 degrees 41 minutes 45 seconds North, 110 degrees 41 minutes 12 seconds West, which is 3 miles southeast of Mammoth, Arizona.

f. Identifying information on the observer:

(1) Name:

Address:

San Manuel, Arizona

Telephone:

Occupation: underground surveyor for Magma Copper Co.

The observer is believed to be reliable. He has had training along civil engineering lines.

(2) N/A

g. Weather and winds - Albeit conditions at time and place of sighting:

(1) Observer reported clear sky.

(2) Winds recorded at Davis-Monthan AFB were: surface 160/02, 6000' - 110/05, 10,000' - 090/05, 16,000' - 100/10, 20,000' - 090/05, 30,000' - 250/30, 50,000' - 280/10.

(3) No ceiling.

(4) Visibility forty (40) miles.

(5) Only high thin broken clouds.

(6) No thunderstorms in the area.

(7) Vertical temperature gradient was approximately six (6) degrees centigrade warmer than standard. Gradient because standard at 33,000' MSL and was colder than standard above this level. Tropopause was approximately 41,000' MSL.

h. None

i. None

j. None

k. Base Director of Operations, 803d Combat Support Group, Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Arizona. No explanation can be found for the sighting. Mr. [REDACTED] had just left a lighted building and was moving toward a parking lot that was lighted by electric lights on poles. He saw the object above the parking lot. He called his sighting to a guard in a shack near by. However, the guard did not bother to even look toward the sighting and informed Mr. [REDACTED] he did not care to be bothered. A check with the Phoenix Air Defense Sector revealed no intercepts or known air traffic in the area. A check was also made on a Goodyear blimp, however, it was not in the area either.

202 000000Z

John H. Amy
John H. Amy
LtColonel, USAF
Base Director of Operations

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MAMMOTH ARIZONA

TDEW

UFO Sighting, Mammoth, Arizona, 15 Jan 65

18 Feb 65

Dr J Allen Hynek
Dearborn Observatory
Northwestern University
Evanston, Illinois

Dear Dr Hynek,

Since you may be in the Arizona, New Mexico area in the near future there is an additional report still requiring more data. The sighting occurred on 15 Jan 65; a copy of this report is attached. Request you contact the witness if deemed necessary.

Sincerely,

ESTOR QUINTANILLA, Jr
Major, USAF
Chief, Aerial Phenomena Branch

1 Atch
a/s

cc: PGE/Mr Sweeney

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DEARBORN OBSERVATORY
NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY
EVANSTON, ILLINOIS 60201

16 April 1955

Major Hector Quintanilla
Foreign Technology Division
Box 9-9h
Wright Patterson Air Force Base
Dayton, Ohio

Dear Major:

I am sorry to be so late in reporting on the Mammoth, Arizona investigation, but here it is finally.

I drove from Tucson to Mammoth on the evening of March 22 and called upon Mr. [REDACTED] at his home in San Manuel, Arizona which is just a short bit from Mammoth. We then drove to the classified area of the Pagma Copper Company, which in itself is an impressive operation. The region is extremely isolated (7 stereo pictures have not yet been developed), but one can say that if the mine and the mine building were not there, there would be nothing but open mountain territory.

Although later in the season, we arrived at the site at approximately the same time of day as the original sighting was made. Since there were so many contradictions in the whole thing, I will start with those first.

1. [REDACTED] was mixed up on directions. He is a surveyor and yet was completely out of line on the direction the buildings pointed. He swore up and down that the main mine buildings pointed north; it actually pointed southeast. i.e. The Surveyor of the Building.
2. His original report stated that he was the only witness and that the guard he tried to get to come to look at the sighting did not wish to be bothered. When I talked to him on the phone, before seeing him, I mentioned, inadvertently perhaps, that this was an odd sort of guard to have around a classified project if he didn't want to come out to look at anything. Apparently they decided to change the story, because when I talked with the guard, he assured me that he had seen the sighting also and agreed nearly in exact detail with [REDACTED]. I think [REDACTED] was just trying to protect him and made him an honorary witness.
3. Although a surveyor and supposedly used to angular measurement, [REDACTED] was very vague as to the subtended angle of the triangle of light. He was also vague as to the variable trajectory of the reported object.
4. Although the time of the sighting seemed to be confirmed, the speed attributed to the object did not match the fourteen minutes he said it remained in sight. I tried to have him act out the situation but he never quite got around to it.

Major Hector Quintanilla

[REDACTED] himself was籌able, and if I were on the witness stand for my side, I would not want [REDACTED] as a witness on my side. A clever lawyer would, I believe, give whatever answer he wanted.

Although it has nothing whatsoever to do with the case, [REDACTED] is an example of the extremely loyal and patriotic Mexican. This country has done right by him, and he intends to do right by this country. He has flags and patriotic pictures around the house and is hell bent to get his children thoroughly educated. He has a wide assortment of books of knowledge and encyclopedias for the kids, and it is clear that learning is high on the totem pole for him.

Major Hector Quintanilla
April 15, 1965
Page 5

He would not be the kind, however, to manufacture a hoax, and so I think he definitely saw something, possibly even of the Hodnicello variety. But the case is not tractable with the information we have and I would say we might call this a case of "Inadequate" rather than "Insufficient information." He gave us sufficient information, but it was of such a sort as to be too inadequate and inaccurate to attempt a solution.

From his data, I would be hard pressed to prove that either aircraft or UFO's existed. The whole sight was probably an aircraft, but very poorly resolved. It could not have had this angular separation, which as he described it variously varied from a quarter of a degree to three degrees, and have taken that long to traverse the sky. If it were a special mission aircraft, with light that apparently far apart, it must have traversed the sky in just a matter of minutes at most.

I think then we would be safe in putting this down as either "insufficient information" or "inadequate information" or better yet "inadequate witness." File under illuminated triangles.

Sincerely yours,

Allen

J. Allen Hynek
Director

JAH:hrf

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